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John  
2/6*



*Prime Minister  
John Gorman is apparently  
a widely acceptable figure  
- disking wished, was  
here, and a*

NORTHERN IRELAND  
Information Service

*Catholic, despite his  
UUP membership.*

12 June 1996

*Looks like a good  
choice.*

*John  
12/6*

THE SECRETARY OF STATE ANNOUNCES FIRST MEETING OF THE FORUM

The Secretary of State Rt Hon Sir Patrick Mayhew QC MP today announced that the Northern Ireland Forum would hold its first meeting at 2.00 pm on Friday, 14 June. This will be held in the Interpoint Centre, York Street, Belfast.

Pending the election of a Chairman of the Forum by its members, the Secretary of State has also nominated Mr John Gorman as initial Chairman of the Forum, under paragraph 1(2) of Schedule 2 to the Northern Ireland (Entry to Negotiations etc) Act 1996.

NOTE FOR EDITORS

1. Under paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 2 to the Northern Ireland (Entry to Negotiations etc) Act 1996 the Secretary of State is required to decide the timing of the first meeting of the Forum. Today Sir Patrick Mayhew signed the following instrument:

'In pursuance of the provisions of paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 2 to the Northern Ireland (Entry to Negotiations, etc) Act 1996, the first meeting of the forum established by that Act will take place in the Interpoint Centre, York Street, Belfast at 2.00 pm on Friday 14 June 1996.'

2. Mr John Gorman is a member of the Ulster Unionist Party, elected on the party's regional list on 30 May. He was formerly Chief Executive of the NI Housing Executive and Regional Director of the Institute of Directors.